

October 13, 2011

Dear Parents and Guardians,

The staff and administration of Beijing World Youth Academy would like to take this opportunity to inform you of our concern regarding agencies which claim to assist children applying to universities. These agencies may be fraudulent and may not provide the services they claim to offer. These agencies not only collect fees, but they can diminish the reputation of the schools they claim to represent.

BWYA has enrolled my services as the University Counsellor to assist students in the application process. While many parents and students believe they need to enlist the services of an agent, this is not the case. In fact, many universities receive forged documentation from agencies which can tarnish the reputation of not only the student but also of the school and the community in which the student lives.

Our interest is in ensuring schools in China develop a positive reputation among international universities, making it easier for our children to enter the universities of their choice. Thus, as a school community we will only send official transcripts and reference letters directly to the university and not to your child or an agency.

While we highly discourage the use of agents, it is important to distinguish between agents and consultants. There are services available which will assist and advise students when they write their personal statements. However, you can utilise reputable sites on the internet; many universities provide information and tips for writing effective personal statements and essays. Our teachers and myself are also available to proof read and assist in the writing of essays and applications.

Please be aware of the harm that agencies can cause. The staff at BWYA will assist your child and ensure that authentic records are sent to universities.

Regards,

Ms. Wang Hong Andy Seehusen

Headmistress University Counsellor

TOK Coordinator